

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A hydroalcoholic gel composition comprising: between 30 and 95 percent (weight/weight) alcohol, between 15 and 70 percent (weight/weight) water, between 0.05 and 0.5 percent (weight/weight) hydrogel, between 0.2 and 3.0 percent (weight/weight) emollient, between 1.0 and 5.0 percent (weight/weight) octoxyglycerin, and ~~an antimicrobial agent~~ a quaternary ammonium compound, wherein the octoxyglycerin and quaternary ammonium compound ~~antimicrobial agent~~ are present in amounts which exhibit synergistic antimicrobial activity, and further wherein said composition has a viscosity below 2000 centipoises.
2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 which further comprises between 0.05 and 0.5 percent emulsifier.
3. (Original) The composition of claim 1 which further comprises between 0.1 and 1.0 percent silicone polymer.
4. (Original) The composition of claim 1 which further comprises between 0.5 and 5.0 percent emollient solvent.
5. (Original) The composition of claim 1 which further comprises between 0.1 and 1.0 percent thickening agent.
6. (Canceled).
7. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the hydrogel is cationic hydroxyethyl cellulose.
8. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the emollient is PPG-20 methyl glucose ether.

9. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 2 wherein the emulsifier is a composition comprising behentrimonium methosulfate, cetyl alcohol, and butylene glycol.
10. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 3 wherein the silicone polymer is dimethiconol fluid in dimethicone.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 5 wherein the thickening agent is behenyl alcohol.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled).
15. (Canceled).
16. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein benzalkonium chloride is the quaternary ammonium compound.
17. (Canceled).
18. (Canceled).
19. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the alcohol is an aliphatic alcohol.
20. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 19 wherein the aliphatic alcohol is ethanol.
21. (Canceled).
22. (Original) The composition of claim 19 wherein the aliphatic alcohol is ethanol at a concentration of between 60 and 95 percent.
- 23-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently amended) A method of preparing a hydroalcoholic gel composition comprising the steps of:

- i. dissolving a hydrogel in water at ambient temperature;
- ii. dissolving an emulsifier in an alcohol at ambient temperature; ~~and~~
- iii. mixing said dissolved hydrogel and said dissolved emulsifier at an ambient temperature, and
- iv. adding to the mixture one or more emollients, one or more silicone polymers, one or more emollient solvents, one or more antimicrobial agents, or one or more thickening agents, octoxyglycerin, or mixtures thereof, wherein one of the antimicrobial agents is a quaternary ammonium compound,

wherein said composition has a viscosity below 2000 centipoises at between 20 and 40 °C.

34. (Canceled)